

control means for performing communication processing on the basis of the one phone number selected by the selecting means; and

storage means for storing a document to be transmitted,

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(and
[transmitting] transmission of the document to be transmitted stored in said storage means on the basis of the desired phone number searched for by said searching means.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6 and 9-17 are in this application, of which Claims 1, 4 and 6 are independent. Claims 1, 4 and 6 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicants regard as their invention, in terms which distinguish over the art of record.

Claims 1, 3-6, 9, 10 and 12-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,622,592 (Ikehata et al.) in view of U.S. Patent 4,431,870 (May et al.) and U.S. Patent 4,566,127 (Sekiya et al.). Claim 11 was rejected under Section 103 as unpatentable over Ikehata in view of May and Sekiya, and further in view of the publication entitled "The Front, a Hand-Held Computer" (Inbound/Outbound, May 1990, page 12).

In response, it is submitted that independent Claims 1, 4 and 6 are allowable over the art applied against them, for at least the following reasons.

Applicants' invention as recited in each of independent Claims 1, 4 and 6, is directed to an image processing apparatus having, inter alia, reading means for reading image information including character data including a phone number recorded in a recording medium, recognizing means for recognizing the character data in the image information read by said reading means, registering means for additionally registering the character data recognized by the recognizing means, and searching means for searching the character data registered in the registering means for a desired phone number. Means for displaying a plurality of phone numbers searched by the searching means, the image information read by the reading means and the character data recognized by the recognizing means are provided, as are means for selecting one of the phone numbers. Means for storing a document to be transmitted are also provided. Control means for performing communication processing on the basis of the one phone number selected by the selecting means are provided, and control transmission of the document to be transmitted stored in the storage means on the basis of the desired phone number searched for by the searching means. In addition to the above features, Claim 4 also recites manual

means for correcting and changing the character data displayed on the display means.

Applicants' invention, as set forth in those claims thus is directed to an information processing apparatus in which telephone numbers, which are recorded on a recording medium, are read, recognized and additionally registered in registering means. In addition, the registering means is searched for a required registered telephone number, the desired telephone number is selected and information is transmitted using the selected telephone number.

Ikehata illustrates a composite facsimile apparatus in which dial information is included in an input character code. When the dial information is detected, output means and transmission control means act together to automatically transmit the input character code to the facsimile apparatus that corresponds to the detected dial information. However, Ikehata fails to teach the feature of the present invention wherein a telephone number that has been recognized in an input image is also registered in a registering means, much less that the registered telephone numbers in the registering means are searched and displayed, or that a desired displayed telephone number is selected and automatically called.

Sekiya is directed to a system in which an optical character reader function and a facsimile function are combined into one system. In the Sekiya system a document is read in accordance with a specific format and is stored in a

memory. Sekiya however, fails to teach that a telephone number (included in an input image) that has been recognized is also registered in a registering means, that the registered telephone numbers in the registering means are searched and displayed, or that a desired displayed telephone number is selected and automatically called.

May also fails to teach the features of the present invention that a telephone number is recognized in an input image and registered in a registering means, that the registered telephone numbers in the registering means are searched and displayed, and that a desired displayed telephone number is selected and automatically called.

In addition, a review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as references against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and its entry is therefore believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Rejection as an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants' respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 758-2400 or by facsimile at (212) 758-2982. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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